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General Assembly
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21 June 1995
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ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fiftieth session
Items 20 (e) and 54 of the
preliminary list*
STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF
HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF
ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS,
INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE:
EMERGENCY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR
PEACE, NORMALCY AND RECONSTRUCTION OF
WAR-STRICKEN AFGHANISTAN
THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS
IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE
AND SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 20 June 1995 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a statement dated 9 June 1995 by a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation regarding Afghanistan (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 20 (e) and 54 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) S. LAVROV

* A/50/50/Rev.1.

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Annex

Statement dated 9 June 1995 by a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

The fierce armed struggle between military and political groups is continuing in Afghanistan. New forces are entering the battle for power. The separatist mood is growing. The struggle is taking on the characteristics of an inter-ethnic conflict, with the attendant risk that the country will fragment.

The absence of civil peace and generally recognized authorities in Afghanistan is causing dangerous problems for neighbouring States, such as the importation of drugs and weapons and the appearance in their territory of mercenaries who were formerly Afghan fighters.

The turn of events in Afghanistan is causing deep concern on the Russian side.

The Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs reaffirms our country's unchanged position of principle, which stipulates our non-involvement in the struggle between the various Afghan parties, and urges other States to refrain from interfering in Afghanistan. The Russian side favours preserving the unity and integrity of Afghanistan against any attempts to fragment the State on ethnic, linguistic, religious or other grounds.

We are particularly concerned to guarantee the security of Afghanistan's frontiers with the Commonwealth of Independent States; we are also anxious that Afghan territory should not be used for activities which undermine the stability and security of neighbouring countries, as is currently happening in connection with Tajikistan.

The Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs appeals to all parties in the internal Afghan struggle to refrain from armed conflict and initiate serious efforts to achieve compromise in the interests of national reconciliation. The way out of the conflict lies in the formation of a broad-based leadership that takes account of the interests of all the ethnic and religious groups in the Afghan population, as well as the traditions of Afghan statehood. Needless to say, the achievement of national consensus depends on the willingness of the Afghan parties themselves to agree to such a step.

We believe that in the achievement of these ends, the active and impartial mediation of the United Nations and coordinated efforts on the part of Afghanistan's neighbours and other interested regional and non-regional States could play a useful role. For our part, we have provided and shall continue to provide all necessary assistance in this matter.

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Fiftieth session
Item 92 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED
TERRITORIES OF CROATIA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 20 June 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Government of the Republic of Croatia has received disturbing reports that individuals residing in the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia" (Serbia and Montenegro), who are former residents of the Republic of Croatia, have been forcibly mobilized and taken to military barracks in Sremska Mitrovica (Serbia) from which they have been sent to the occupied territories of Croatia for military service. The information indicates that this mobilization is being conducted with the full support of the Serbian police and the Yugoslav Army. These reports have been confirmed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, international news agencies, independent Serbian newspapers and by non-governmental organizations within Serbia.

It must be stressed that the individuals who have been mobilized are not only those Croatian citizens of ethnic Serb origin who have arrived recently in Serbia and received refugee status from the authorities of the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia" (Serbia and Montenegro), but also individuals who have migrated to Serbia from Croatia some time ago and who hold citizenship in the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia" (Serbia and Montenegro).

According to reports which we have received, armed men wearing the insignia of the "Military Police of Krajina" have been allowed to operate in cities in the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia" (Serbia and Montenegro) and take away men of military age in order to force them to join Croatian Serb paramilitary forces

* A/50/50/Rev.1.

which are assisting in Belgrade's occupation of certain territories of the Republic of Croatia. On 16 June, the newly assigned military commander of the Croatian Serb paramilitary forces in Knin, Yugoslav Army General Mile Mrksic, admitted that the actions were coordinated with the Yugoslav Army and the Interior Ministry of Serbia. Croatian Serb paramilitary authorities in Knin also recently confirmed the arrival of "volunteers" and "draft-age men" who were sent to the front lines to "defend western Serb lands".

It must be noted that prior to becoming the commander of the Croatian Serb paramilitary forces, Mile Mrksic held the position of Assistant Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of Yugoslavia at Belgrade, and he is still a commissioned officer of that Army. He is still being compensated by the Yugoslav Army, as are hundreds of other officers of the Croatian Serb paramilitary forces. This has been confirmed by documentation presented by the Republic of Croatia (S/1995/229-S/1995/401). This fact, as well as the facts noted above, are a further example of the measures that the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia" (Serbia and Montenegro) has been undertaking in its continuation of the occupation of territories of the Republic of Croatia, in violation of General Assembly resolution 49/43 of 9 December 1994 entitled "The situation in the occupied territories of Croatia".

Furthermore, the actions of the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia" (Serbia and Montenegro) represent non-cooperation in the implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions, as well as external interference in respect of the full implementation of the United Nations peace-keeping plan for the Republic of Croatia. In this respect, I wish to remind that Security Council resolution 871 (1993) of 4 October 1993 states that such behaviour will have serious consequences and that these kinds of actions will be taken into account regarding full normalization of the international community's position towards those who engage in such actions.

Additionally, the Security Council in its resolution 981 (1995) of 31 March 1995 decided that the mandate of the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia (UNCRO) should include assistance in the prevention of military interference in Croatia from outside, including the crossing of military personnel over Croatia's international borders with the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia" (Serbia and Montenegro).

I would be grateful for your kind assistance in circulating this letter as a document of the General Assembly, under item 92 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative